

REMARKS

It is noted that the elected species is Figures 1 and 3b.

Reconsideration of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested.

Referring to the objection to the drawings - Figs. 1 and 2 is not clear - both figures represent axially extending side views. It is not understood what is meant by "The elevation view is placed upon the sectional view or vice versa in Figures 1 and 2".

With regard to the other objections, enclosed herewith are two replacement sheets with a Letter to the Official Draftsperson providing distinguishing reference numerals for the different parts of the invention.

The specification has been amended as required and shows the reference characters added in the drawing.

Regarding the claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, the claims have been amended to overcome the grounds for rejection.

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Hembree et al. 6,045,026 and claims 1, 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Aoki et al. 6,679,282.

It should be noted though not stated specifically that it is obvious from the description of the invention that the “coupling” is separable after use and is not intended as a locked connection between the tool and the tool receptacle. The “coupling” is used for transferring ultrasound energy and not for locking the tool to the tool receptacle.

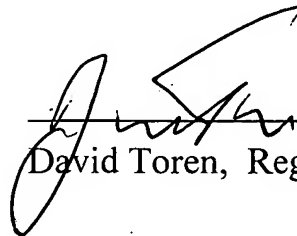
In Hembree et al. a machine and method are disclosed to bond a die 14 to an interconnect. Figs. 62 with sharp apexes are shown to effect the bond. There is no suggestion or disclosure of a coupling for transmitting ultrasound energy. The mere showing of the tips with sharp apexes does not afford anticipating the applicants’ claimed coupling.

In Aoki et al. a valve is disclosed attached to a fuel tank. Though a floating valve (3) has a pointed tip there is no suggestion that such valve affords any indication that this arrangement could be used as a coupling for transmitting ultrasound energy.

The Hembree et al. and Aoki et al. references do not suggest or disclose the applicants’ invention. The mere illustration of an element with a pointed tip does not provide any basis for the rejection of the applicants’ claims.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the applicants' claims are allowable and a favorable action on the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 29, 2005

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